

## **Minutes of the Solid Waste Committee**

### **September 14, 2006**

**Present:** Hwei Ling Greeney, Select Board Liaison; Pat Church, Chair; Susan Waite, Recycling Coordinator; Harvey Allen, Marianne Lorenzelli, Meg Vickery. Bob Pariseau, Acting Superintendent

Minutes from June '06 were approved.

Minutes from August 2006 meeting will be revised to clarify the discussion with Elaine Brighty and Rebecca Treitley and presented again in October.

#### **Updates:**

School Composting. Susan showed the composting video made by Steve Braun. It was well received by the committee. The goals of the program were reviewed and included:

- 1) showing the video in all the elementary schools
- 2) installing compost coaches
- 3) a follow up segment later in the school year

Susan reported that Fort River had two parents helping with compost coaching, but they had not yet shown the video. She was in contact with the vice-principal, and a supportive custodian and expects that more attention will be given to the project in the future. She observed that Fort River appears to use very little Styrofoam.

Susan also reported that Crocker Farm had not yet shown the video and Clare had been unable to locate it. It was not clear whether compost coaching had occurred.

Marks Meadow is fine and Wildwood is doing well.

Susan reported that Bob Martin had not found too much contamination in the first two weeks. It is her feeling that the next two weeks are crucial to the success of the program and hopes that Fort River and Crocker Farm will get organized.

The committee hopes that the video will be shown on ACTV and could be a venue to ask for volunteers. Bob Pariseau suggested that we ask the Hitchcock center for help as well. Susan also informed the committee that Northampton will be opening a composting facility at their landfill which is good news should we loose Martin's Farms.

**Grant Update:** Susan reported that she has submitted the grant without the curriculum piece as the timing was too tight to get that organized. She asked for equipment, educational materials, rain barrels and water conservation kits.

**Energy fair, 10/7/06.** Susan will staff a table with composting units and counter-top buckets, and educational material. The committee asked if the video could be shown and Susan will look into that. Meg and Marianne volunteered to help man a table. Susan will

also have Junk Mail Reduction kits and the *Recyclopedia* out for viewing. Meg offered to look into providing information on healthy alternatives to the hazardous waste for home improvement and lawn care, etc.

(Meg Vickery had to leave at 4:55)

**Name Change Discussion.** Members of the committee are supportive of a name change. At the very least, 'recycling' should be added. Susan made a few suggestions:

- 1) The Solid Waste and Recycling Committee
- 2) The Solid Waste and Recycling Committee
- 3) The Committee of Solid Waste Reduction and management

Discussion ensued re: the original mission of the Committee. The Committee was formed before the landfill was closed and before recycling became a national expectation. We may want to look at the committee's official charge and consider updating /revising it as waste-stream reduction appears to be our primary focus. Pat will find out the procedure for committee name change and we will discuss it further.

### **Business Recycling Strategy**

This topic was tabled for next meeting. Susan remarked that it has been tabled repeatedly for several months. Pat said we should put it at the top of the agenda in October.

### **New Business**

Hwei Ling Greeney spoke about the need to issue citations for recycling violations. This will go on next month's agenda.

Susan suggested that the committee write a letter of thanks to Steve Braun for his work on the video. She will draft a letter and bring it to the next meeting for signatures. We will also give him a composting unit.

Next Meeting, October 12, 2006

Respectfully submitted, Meg Vickery, clerk pro tem